



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Cameroon

Second Opposition Party Formed in Douala

AB0606201690 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 5 Jun 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In spite of official refusals to give recognition to opposition parties in Cameroon, a second one has been formed. The new party sets up shop fully aware of the tragic events at the launching of the first one, the SDF [Social Democratic Front], when police clashed with SDF supporters, leaving a number of dead. From Yaounde Victor Appiah Ngame telexed this report.

[Begin studio announcer recording] The new party is to be called the Total Democracy for Cameroon. Its founder is Mr. Gustave Essaka, a 41-old former political refugee from Douala. Mr. Essaka says he lodged the application for recognition of his party in Douala on May 17. He told the independent daily, LE COMBAT-TANT, that he returned to Cameroon because he was impressed with President Biya's democratization plan. But he says he now finds the process too slow. Mr. Essaka says he will postpone the launching of his party until the government has responded to his application. He has learned from the SDF experience.

Six people were killed when police opened fire at the SDF founding conference in Bamenda last month. The official media here has been instructed to ignore all reference to multipartism and to focus attention on the forthcoming World Cup in Italy in the apparent hope that Cameroonians will forget about politics, at least, while the World Cup lasts.

Meanwhile, parliament began meeting in Yaounde today. It is essentially a budget session but the popular thrust for democracy is expected to come under discussion. Unconfirmed sources say the Presidency may be preparing a bill to amend the Constitution. [end recording]

Zaire

Prime Minister Sets Tasks for Transition Period

EA0706073290 Lubumbashi Domestic Service
in French 1630 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] The examination of the transitional government's program of action is still under way. First state commissioner Lunda Bululu [word indistinct] his interlocutors. He set tasks for each of them in their respective fields to be undertaken during the transitional period. The [word indistinct] of the government's program was adopted by the Executive Council. [words indistinct] the most sensitive sectors, notably health, education, agriculture,

rural (?development), [word indistinct], posts and telecommunications, and transport, as well as other specific social projects.

The actions have as their objective the improvement of the population's [words indistinct] life and welfare both in rural and urban areas. It is worth noting that the first state commissioner insisted on an improvement in pay conditions for the state [word indistinct] and departments and the restoration of public finances.

The Executive Council meeting was today extended to the level of regional governors.

Challenges Facing Transition Government Viewed

AB0606224590 Kinshasa AZAP in French
1430 GMT 4 jun 90

[AZAP Commentary: "The Transition Government Faces Challenges"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 4 June (AZAP)—During its regular weekly meeting on 1 June, the Executive Council reviewed the internal situation of the country in the light of incidents occurring in student, lecturer, and medical doctor circles. It was thus observed that the internal situation in Zaire is characterized by political on-upmanship in urban centers where some sort of tension can be observed among the students and a wave of strikes embarked upon by lecturers, doctors, and some other professional organizations.

Confronted with this situation, the transition government has taken a number of measures and decisions including the drafting of all medical doctors to resume work. This decision was made public after the 1 June meeting and remains to be implemented in the field. The situation in the higher education and scientific research sector is also of concern and, according to a spokesman of the Executive Council, was the subject of long debate during the Executive Council meeting. The department in charge of this sector is expected to submit its report today on the exact situation prevailing at the universities and higher learning institutions in the country in order to enable the Executive Council to take the necessary measures. Therefore, the government needs to rapidly find suitable solutions, in the best interest of the Zairian people, to the dangerous situation prevailing in these two vital sectors.

The transition government, whose main task is to monitor the political changes decided upon by the head of state and to respond to the economic and social concerns of the Zairian people, will not in doing so, neglect the other political and social problems facing the country on a day to day basis, because it is a fact that the economic measures taken will only succeed in an atmosphere of social and political stability.

It is within this context that the Executive Council continues to be concerned with the situation created by the torrential rains of 21 May 1990, which caused great

material destruction and rendered 11,000 people homeless. The government, which was informed of the measures taken by the Kinshasa City Council [words indistinct] housed victims for whom the Mpasa site is being prepared, has, on its part, taken preventive measures concerning the Makelele River on which a four-lane viaduct will be built to restore traffic between the Bandalungwa and the Kintambo areas which has been disrupted for a long time at Kasavubu Avenue.

It is a good thing that the Executive Council, while taking measures to repair the damage caused by the Makelele River overflowing its banks, also thought of taking preventive measures, notably the development of a protection site.

Evidently, it is by reacting effectively, promptly, and firmly to the challenges that are gradually cropping up in the accomplishment of its heavy and delicate mission that the transition government could hope to take up this wager.

Parliamentary Team Ends Investigation in Bukavu

*AB0606220290 Kinshasa AZAP in French
1640 GMT 4 Jun 90*

[Text] Bukavu, 4 Jun (AZAP)—The parliamentary delegation charged with conducting investigations of the incidents caused recently by the students of all the institutes of higher education in Bukavu returned to Kinshasa on 3 June after a five-day stay in the capital of the South Kivu Region.

Just before leaving Bukavu, the leader of this delegation, People's Commissioner Tangelo Okito, told AZAP that the members of his commission worked under normal conditions, noting that they benefited from the material support of the regional authorities. Citizen Tangelo stressed that there were no major impediments to their work in Bukavu. He then explained that after hearing the mission's report, the Legislative Council will approve it and then make it public.

In Bukavu, the members of the delegation held working sessions with management boards of the town's institutes of higher education, regional and urban authorities, town dignitaries, and the student union.

Doctors in Shaba To Suspend Work 11 June

*EA0606213690 Lubumbashi Domestic Service
in French 1630 GMT 6 Jun 90*

[Text] Doctors in Shaba are planning to stop work on Monday 11 June if their demands are not met. The regional council of the doctors' association said this to the regional governor today. Indeed, since there is a general strike of doctors in Kinshasa this may backfire

on the Lubumbashi section of the association. In a document addressed to the Shaba governor, the regional council of the doctors' association considered the grievances of the Kinshasa doctors as their own.

The regional governor this afternoon called for a meeting with the members of the regional council of the doctors' association at his office's meeting hall. The doctors were led by Dr. (Kapela Kalala) and (?represented) many of their colleagues, members of the association. The meeting was held in a relaxed atmosphere despite the seriousness of the matter and was conducted in a spirit of frankness. Citizen Koyagiolo Ngabale Gerengbo, the Shaba regional governor who was flanked by (Piaze Fanda Lukala), the regional director of [words indistinct] and Dr. (Mongolo Molengi) the head of the regional medical services, immediately reassured the doctors that he had conveyed to the relevant authorities all their demands.

It is worth mentioning that the Shaba doctors are demanding mainly three things: first, an increase in the budget allocated to public health in Zaire, second, improvement in working conditions in medical institutions in Zaire [words indistinct] for the sick population, and third, improvement in the salaries of Zairian doctors, in accordance with the norms of the WHO [words indistinct] this sector of activities, that is between \$3,000 and \$4,000 dollars. This is equivalent to 1,620,000-2,160,000 zaires [word indistinct] per month.

After attentively listening to his interlocutors and sympathizing with their problems, the regional governor reminded them that the public authorities were not insensitive to the doctors' demands and that negotiations were underway between members of the doctors' association and the country's authorities in order to find a (?ground) of understanding.

During the meeting, the doctors' representatives submitted proposals which they want the authorities to tackle. In order to keep pace with negotiations going on in Kinshasa in the interest of all the doctors of Zaire, the regional council of the doctors' association agreed to the suggestion of the regional governor to send two emissaries to the capital. Travel and accommodation costs will be covered by the regional government. Since sooner is always better, Doctors (Kabuya wa Kasongo) and (Debita Kalinda) will soon be flying to Kinshasa.

Meanwhile, their colleagues who are left in Shaba, (?still according to report) will be impatiently waiting for a favorable response from the executive council. On behalf of all the Shaba doctors they have taken the responsibility of informing the regional governor about their decision to suspend their usual work in all the medical institutions of the region from next Monday, 11 June 1990, until their demands are met.

Foreign Minister Says UN Visit Not Interference

*MB0406200490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1955 GMT 4 Jun 90*

[Text] Johannesburg, June 4, SAPA—The visit of senior United Nation officials to South Africa, [SA] starting on Saturday [9 June], was not an indication the government agreed to "uncalled for interference" in the country, Foreign Minister Pik Botha said in statement from Cape Town on Monday [4 June] night.

It should also not be seen as cooperation in the implementation of the General Assembly resolution last December on SA, "which the South African Government rejects," Mr. Botha's statement added.

Earlier on Monday, at the UN headquarters in New York, UN officials announced that Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar will send a team of officials to SA "to discuss ending the apartheid system."

A UN announcement said the team will meet members of the SA Government, and representatives of political parties, movements and other organisations, on the latest developments concerning apartheid. The information gathered during the 10-day visit will help the secretary-general prepare a report to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the December declaration on apartheid "and its destructive consequences in southern Africa."

The UN declaration stemmed from the so-called Harare declaration, adopted earlier by the Organisation of African Unity—and which was drawn-up with the assistance of the African National Congress [ANC]. According to the ANC, the Harare declaration—which includes a demand for the ending of the state of emergency, the return of exiles, and elections for a constituent assembly—is the minimum guideline for ending apartheid.

Mr. Botha's statement said the visit of UN officials follows a request Mr. Perez de Cuellar made to President de Klerk in Windhoek during Namibia's independence celebrations in March. "It was agreed that a representative of the secretary-general would visit SA to acquaint himself firsthand with the latest developments in the same way as previous missions from other international organisations which had visited SA in recent years," Mr. Botha said.

"It was also made clear that such a visit is construed by the SA Government as a genuine desire on the part of the secretary-general to obtain correct information on the internal situation of SA ... and not," Mr. Botha's statement added, "as an indication that the SA Government acquiesces in the uncalled for interference by the General Assembly in the internal affairs of SA."

In a letter to the UN in December, Mr. Botha "made it clear that (the government) rejected the General Assembly's action."

"This remains the attitude of the SA Government," Mr. Botha stressed on Monday night.

He added the government "has no objection to correct information on SA being made available to the secretary-general."

However, "on condition that the secretary-general clearly undertakes that this is not to be construed as cooperation in the implementation of the General Assembly's resolution which the SA Government rejects as ultra vires to the charter of the UN."

The UN team will be headed by Under Secretary-General Abdulrahim Farah, who will be accompanied by Assistant Secretary-General Sotirios Mousouris and other officials. They will stay in SA until June 19—beginning with meetings in Cape Town the day after their arrival on June 11, and will also visit Durban, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Botha Says Venda, Ciskei Governments Recognized

*MB0606193090 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1900 GMT 6 Jun 90*

[Text] The South African Government has decided formally to recognize the Vandan and Ciskeian Governments after changes in these governments during the past three months.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, said in two separate statements in Cape Town that the government had decided to recognize the new governments in the two states after both had proved willing to maintain relations with South Africa.

Mr. Botha said the two governments have proved their ability to maintain effective control over their countries, and both enjoyed wide support.

Justice Minister Sees End to Discriminatory Laws

*MB0706104390 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN
in English 6 Jun 90 p 4*

[Text] Cape Town—All race discrimination will be moved from South African law and there is no question of it being retained under the guise of "own affairs", Mr. Kobie Coetsee, Minister of Justice, said yesterday.

Referring to the proposed repeal of the Separate Amenities Act, Mr. Coetsee said this was part of the elimination of race discrimination from South African law.

He told the Institute of Town Clerks yesterday that an end to separate amenities left the onus on local authorities to demonstrate that they could run their facilities in an orderly manner and to the advantage and acceptance of the community.

"They are now on their own—they must work out their own salvation through sober objectivity, reasonableness and fairness, the maintenance of norms and standards and through good management," said Mr. Coetsee.

"In legal terms, discrimination on the grounds of race is being removed from our public law.

"It is difficult to conceive of it reviving, or that our courts will in any way whatever be prepared to maintain or to confirm discriminatory action of any nature.

"There is also no thought of discrimination surviving in another form or under an 'own affairs' banner. On the contrary, steps will be taken to purify 'own affairs' legislation of discriminatory provisions.

"Indeed, the Ministers' Council and the House of Assembly administration has played a leading role in the re-examination process which is now culminating in the repeal of discriminatory measures," said Mr. Coetsee.

USSR's Asoyan Interviewed on Developments

MB020622590 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
29 May 90 p 17

["Recent interview in Moscow" with Boris Asoyan, deputy chief of the Africa Division of the Soviet Department of Foreign Affairs, by BEELD correspondent Leopold Scholtz]

[Text] [Scholtz] How do you view current developments in South Africa?

[Asoyan] Developments there over the past year have been very encouraging. The process is positive. I think the talks between the South African Government and the African National Congress [ANC] on 2 May and their positive outcome are moves in the right direction.

[Scholtz] In light of this, is there any chance that the USSR and South Africa will in the near future establish diplomatic relations?

[Asoyan] If we are speaking about a democratic, non-racial South Africa, then there can be no doubt. However, the USSR is committed to decisions by the United Nations, and in particular the decision made by the Security Council last December, namely, that sanctions be provisionally maintained.

I think the secretary general's report on this is due out in July. Everything will depend on the reaction of the international community to developments inside South Africa. So, I would say the ball is in South Africa's court. If apartheid is removed, if South Africans find solutions to their problems around a table, then why should there not in the future be diplomatic relations between us?

[Scholtz] Does your government insist on a simplistic, one-man, one-vote system for South Africa, or does it allow for something else coming out of the negotiation process, something like special constitutional protection for minorities?

[Asoyan] The USSR and, I believe, the rest of the world would accept whatever solution is reached by South Africans as long as it is mutually agreed upon. It is not for us to decide on that. To me, negotiation means finding a solution which suits everyone. So, no one insists on the need for rigid systems. South Africans must decide for themselves. We cannot prescribe to them.

[Scholtz] In general, what are Soviet intentions in southern Africa?

[Asoyan] What we have done in the past two years in southern Africa shows clearly what our goal is. We want peace and stability in that region. We would like to see the conflicts which have been raging for so long in various parts of the region to be peacefully resolved through political negotiations. We see a light at the end of the tunnel for Angola; some progress has been made in Mozambique; and, as I have said, we are encouraged by developments in South Africa itself.

[Scholtz] In South Africa there is a perception that in the past the USSR played a destabilizing role by giving aid to the ANC, the South-West African People's Organization, the Luanda government, and the Cubans in Angola. Since about 1987-88 this has started changing. Is that perception correct? If so, what caused the change?

[Asoyan] I would put it differently. The cause of instability in southern Africa was not Soviet policy but rather South African policy. It was South Africa which attacked and destabilized the frontline states. The wars which took place were the result of the confrontation between South Africa and the other countries of the region.

The USSR has not changed its policy. We considered the Government of Angola to be the legitimate government, and we stood by them. The same applies to Mozambique. And we still see the ANC as the most important political force in South Africa. They are all old friends, and they will remain old friends.

When Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met President de Klerk in Windhoek, he made it clear that we will not change our policy towards the ANC. And bear in mind, that is not only our policy; it is the policy of the international community.

[Scholtz] What role does the ANC play in determining Soviet policy towards South Africa? Some people believe Moscow does nothing unless it gets the ANC's approval.

[Asoyan] I don't think that is correct. It is not possible. We decide independently what to do. Naturally, we consult our friends when we have to decide on a difficult matter, but as for formulating our policy, we act independently.

I must emphasize that our preference for political solutions in South Africa is currently understood by all, even by the South African Government. So, you must not believe that anyone uses the USSR or that the USSR uses anyone. What is taking place in South Africa is a reflection of events in the world in general. It is an honest

and forthright process to find the shortest route for settling all the differences in the world. The same applies to our policy towards southern Africa.

[Scholtz] The ANC is financed to a large degree by the USSR. Is this going to change in light of the latest developments?

[Asoyan] Well, that is a question I cannot answer because I don't know much about it. The ANC gets money from all over the world. I don't think I can say more than that.

[Scholtz] Do you have a message for South Africans?

[Asoyan] I can only express my wish, and that of the Soviet Government, for South Africa to move as smoothly as possible to the goals determined by the people of your country. What I mean is, the peaceful ending of apartheid and the introduction of a system which satisfies all the people there.

[Scholtz] Do you see white South Africans as enemies?

[Asoyan, laughing] No, not at all. That would be impossible.

[Scholtz] Mr. Asoyan, thank you for the time you have granted me for this interview.

[Asoyan] Thank you, Mr. Scholtz.

IZVESTIYA Deputy Editor Comments on Visit

*MB0406102790 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 4 Jun 90 p 1*

[By Alan Fine]

[Text] The problems of poverty in SA [South Africa] are more complicated than the political problems and will be far more difficult to resolve, according to Soviet newspaper IZVESTIYA deputy editor Igor Golembevskiy, whose 10-day trip to SA ends today.

He warned Soviet and East European experience had shown that SA should not attempt to resolve its socio-economic problems by "totalitarian" means.

The number two man in one of the two best-known Soviet newspapers was accompanied by IZVESTIYA's Maputo correspondent, Boris Pelyatskin, on the trip arranged by BUSINESS DAY.

Golembevskiy, conceding he was a "newcomer" to SA, said a tension-creating wealth gap was to him one of the most striking features of SA.

"Also, in the USSR and Eastern Europe the nature of the economic problems are different. For example, educational, health care and housing problems have largely been solved despite some shortcomings."

He spoke to all sides in SA except the rightwing. "I gained the impression that both the NP [National Party]

and the ANC [African National Congress] want to build a new society but each side has different methods and goals.

"The experience of the USSR tells me nothing can be done quickly, and to try to bring about changes unrealistically quickly will be counter-productive."

He added ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela had said he believed in President F.W. de Klerk's honesty.

"But Mandela is also right to say the ANC cannot base its strategy on one man's honesty only. The honesty of one man must be transformed into political and judicial guarantees for the whole society."

NP Wins Durban Election With Reduced Majority

*MB0706070590 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 7 Jun 90*

[Text] The parliamentary by-election in the Durban constituency of Umlazi has been won by the National Party [NP] candidate, Mr. Piet Matthee, who retained the seat for the NP with a substantially reduced majority of only 547 votes compared to the NP majority in the general election last year.

Our political staff reports that the result indicates a clear swing to the right. Mr. Matthee gained 5,762 votes and Mr. Francis Hitchcock of the Conservative Party [CP] 5,215 votes. In the general election, the NP majority was 2,835. Mr. Trevor Coppin of the Democratic Party obtained only 982 votes and lost his deposit. There were 22 spoiled papers. The percentage poll was 59.1 percent compared with just more than 61 in the general election. The seat became vacant on the appointment of Mr. Con Botha of the NP as administrator of Natal.

Mr. Piet Matthee of the NP attributed the reduced majority to false propaganda which he said had been spread about the NP. He said that the state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, still enjoyed the support of the majority of voters.

The leader of the NP in Natal, Mr. George Bartlett, said the result indicated that the Democratic Party no longer had any reason to exist.

The leader of the CP, Dr. Andries Treurnicht said that if the result was representative of trends throughout South Africa, then the NP would apparently not win another general election.

A coleader of the Democratic Party, Dr. Denis Worrall, responded by saying that it was clear that the NP had lost its traditional support.

Police Confirm Mandela House Searches

*MB0606165090 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 6 Jun 90*

[Text] The police have confirmed that they searched two houses belonging to the deputy president of the ANC [African National Congress], Mr. Nelson Mandela, in Soweto early this morning for a suspected murderer.

A senior police liaison officer, Brigadier Vic Heyns, said in Pretoria that the police had had a warrant and that the suspect had not been found.

He said various houses, including the Mandelas', had been searched after a tip-off. The ANC exiles who returned from Lusaka are being accommodated in the houses. A third house, also accommodating ANC exiles, was also searched.

Sisulu Expresses 'Concern'

*MB0606141490 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 6 Jun 90*

[Text] ANC [African National Congress] internal leader, Walter Sisulu, has expressed concern at the police search of Nelson Mandela's Soweto home.

Sisulu says he will be taking the matter up with the government.

Two homes belonging to the ANC deputy president were searched by police claiming to be looking for a murder suspect. Sisulu has refuted a police statement that the search was done with a warrant and was accepted in what was called a conspiracy.

Sisulu has also questioned the police assertion that a murder suspect was being sought. He suggested that they were looking for arms.

Dhlomo Resignation Increases Buthelezi Isolation

*MB0306103090 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 3 Jun 90 p 2*

[By political correspondent David Breier]

[Text] The growing isolation of Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi and his Inkatha movement continued this week with the resignation of his righthand man Oscar Dhlomo, described as the "intellectual pillar" of Inkatha.

He is resigning from Inkatha as well as from the KwaZulu Cabinet where he is Minister of Education and Culture, and from the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly. He expects to leave active politics and return to academic life for a while.

Dr. Dhlomo, the secretary-general of Inkatha, has had several meetings with the African National Congress [ANC] in recent years despite the open warfare between

Inkatha and the ANC/United Democratic Front [UDF]/COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] grouping in Natal.

Informed sources predicted that after a cooling-off period of political retirement, Dr. Dhlomo could return to active politics, possibly on the side of the ANC.

The ANC convenor for Southern Natal and UDF publicity secretary Patrick Lekota said yesterday Dr. Dhlomo would be "welcome in our organisation" and was the "type of person we want".

Mr. Lekota said the resignation was a further indication of the disintegration of the homeland policy and of a "clear break with a tribal political organisation and outlook".

Dr. Dhlomo has long been seen as a restraining influence in Inkatha's conflict with the ANC/UDF, and also as Chief Buthelezi's second-in-command.

Observers cautioned that his resignation could increase Inkatha's isolation as well as its militancy in the Natal conflict.

Chief Buthelezi said he regretted Dr. Dhlomo's resignation as he had played a very important role in the development of Inkatha.

"I am sure that Dr. Dhlomo will succeed admirably in whatever he chooses to do after he has had a period of rest, and after he has had time to consider his options."

Dhlomo Denies Struggle With Buthelezi

*MB0406184190 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN
in English 4 Jun 90 p 4*

[By Erik Larsen]

[Text] Dr. Oscar Dhlomo emphatically denied yesterday that his decision to resign from Inkatha and the KwaZulu Cabinet was as a result of a power struggle between himself and the KwaZulu Chief Minister, Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

"I have no hesitation whatsoever in stating that this allegation is absolutely without any foundation."

Dr. Dhlomo said that although he had no intention of reacting to all the speculation in the press on the reasons for his resignation, he felt obliged to react to a report in the CITY PRESS yesterday, because the "serious implications" of the article could "engender unnecessary destabilisation in Natal and KwaZulu."

The page one lead article claimed that a power struggle with Dr. Buthelezi "probably" led to Dr. Dhlomo's resignation. "It is ridiculous to even speculate that there could have been a power struggle between myself and the Chief Minister."

Dr. Dhlomo also denied reports that he had received overtures from the African National Congress [ANC] or its affiliates to join them. "This is nonsense. I have not been contacted by the UDF [United Democratic Front], ANC or COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Union]—nor by any other political organisation."

He also scoffed at another Sunday newspaper report that the State President, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, had been asked by Dr. Buthelezi to persuade him to remain in politics and to reconsider his resignation.

"Mr. de Klerk has definitely not been in contact with me regarding my resignation."

He stressed that his decision to quit had been a personal one and he had not been motivated to do so by anyone or anything.

Dr. Dhlomo has not yet decided on what he plans to do when his resignation becomes effective on June 30.

"I intend to rest and reflect on various options pertaining to my future occupation."

Dr. Dhlomo emphasised that his decision to resign had not been a hasty one. "It is not in my nature to make spur-of-the-moment decisions. I thought about it clearly and properly and decided it was the correct route for me."

Dhlomo Rejects Joining ANC

MB0606164390 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 1545 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] The secretary general of Inkatha, Dr. Oscar Dhlomo, who has announced that he is to resign from the organization, has scotched rumors that he might be joining the ANC [African National Congress].

In an interview with Kotie van Heerden, he also denied that there was any disagreement between himself and the Inkatha leadership or the KwaZulu Government:

[Begin Dhlomo video recording] No, I will not join the ANC. I will not join any other political party at all.

I hope to continue contributing to normalizing the political climate in South Africa, encouraging reconciliation, but strictly on a nonparty political basis.

I also wish to say that all rumors doing the rounds that there were any clashes between myself and the chief minister, Dr. Buthelezi, do not have any foundation. I leave KwaZulu and Inkatha with the best wishes of not only Dr. Buthelezi but also all the members of Inkatha within all the structures of the organization. The same is true of the KwaZulu Government. [end recording]

Parliament Discusses Low Income Housing Finance

MB0706085890 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Parliament has discussed legislation aimed at making it easier for people in the lower-income group to obtain finance to buy suitable housing and providing increased security for investors in low-cost housing.

The Usury Amendment Bill makes provision for simple interest in cases where arrangements have been made for deferred payments and not compound interest. The maximum rate has been reduced by one percentage point to compensate for previous instances where compound interest have been in effect.

Introducing the second reading debate on the bill, the deputy minister of finance, Dr. Org Marais, said anyone with assets was part of the free-market system and that this supported government policy about the upliftment and economic development of the people.

In terms of the Reinsurance of Material Damage and Losses Amendment Bill, provision has been made for providers of credit who are reluctant to borrow money for low-cost housing in view of political circumstances to obtain insurance on bonds. The insurers will be compensated by the government if the bond holder is unable to meet his commitment and his house is sold for less than the value of the bond.

6 June Press Review on Current Problems, Issues

MB0606132890

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

More Questions, Less Answers in Political Killings Probe—

The Harms Commission inquiry into political killings has "produced more questions than answers," declares Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 6 June in a page 14 editorial. "The brief of the commission has a vital flaw—it is prevented from investigating killings beyond South Africa's borders, which appear to have been a key part of the CCB's [Civil Cooperation Bureau] operations." The commission may submit information to the attorney general for a decision "on whether to prosecute witnesses who have admitted to crimes," but "much quicker action is required if the public is to be convinced that every legal effort is being taken to expose the full truth and limit damage which may still be continuing."

BUSINESS DAY

Editorial on Call for Short-Term Economic Relief—

The "growing clamour" for government and the Reserve Bank to "ease restraints on the economy is in itself evidence that monetary and fiscal discipline have not yet succeeded in changing the ruinous mind-set created by

decades of policy-making best described as 'socialism for the rich and capitalism for the poor'," observes Johannesburg **BUSINESS DAY** in English on 6 June in a page 8 editorial. "Having become a banana republic ourselves, having failed to meet our debts on due date, having created inflationary expectations which condemn us to further inflation, having learned to exploit a funny-money currency to make short-term profits, and having learned to turn to government for relief of every problem, we now behave as addicts do: we demand more short-term relief, even at the cost of long-term ruin." Now government economic administrators know the "cycle must be broken," and **BUSINESS DAY** asks whether the government "has the will to go through with its policy until those who clamour for easy relief realise that, this time, it is cold turkey."

Criticism of Mandela Remarks on No Change—A second editorial states that Nelson Mandela "obviously thinks it is necessary to keep up the pressure on the National Party," and uses the armed struggle and the sanctions campaign as two "instruments" for this purpose. Both methods "display a certain revolutionary ruthlessness that must be taken seriously." But when Mandela "descends" to "nonsensical pronouncements that nothing much has changed in the country, or that apartheid is still intact, he undermines his own credibility and his own stature." "Serious people, even in the United States, know however that apartheid has changed, that the suspension and repeal of apartheid laws has not been trivial, that the ending of the state of emergency will meet even the ANC's [African National Congress] most recent demands, and that anybody who says nothing has changed in SA [South Africa] is just talking poppycock. Mandela should not descend to such stuff."

BEELD

Local Communities Should Make Use of New Models—In a page 14 editorial the Johannesburg **BEELD** in Afrikaans on 30 May makes the following comments: "One indication that South Africa is giving substance to reform, is the fact that a number of models covering a variety of issues are now being either considered or being finalized. Models providing for open and private schools have recently been announced. According to these models, local communities will be able to decide for themselves which model will best serve the educational

needs of pupils. A number of constitutional models are also now being discussed, but will only receive close attention once there has been substantial progress with negotiations. The government has also suggested various models for local government. The aim is not to be prescriptive, but rather to provide a number of options." The government "clearly does not want to stall." "With such an attitude, local communities have only themselves to blame if concrete change does not occur fast. Third-level government can serve as an example of how people can live in harmony, according to their own requirements and circumstances."

Mandela Ought To Visit East Bloc—In an editorial on page 8, the Johannesburg **BEELD** in Afrikaans of 4 June notes Nelson Mandela, "who leaves today on an extensive six-week tour of 13 countries, will be visiting some of the most powerful capitals in the world. But he will not even be looking in fleetingly at East bloc countries or the USSR." "If he does not wish to call on his traditional friends, but rather on countries which believe in private possession and the free market, we wish him well. He and his followers can indeed find great benefit in new insights." "Rather than avoid Moscow and other East bloc countries, we would have liked to have him see with his own eyes what state control does to an economy, how it leads to empty shelves in stores, and how rapidly it can impoverish a country technologically. His Western hosts ought to remind him about this."

Separate Amenities Repeal 'Solid Piece of Reform'—A second editorial on the same page says: "The bill on the repeal of discriminatory legislation affecting amenities is a solid piece of reform." "This kind of reform has political clout." "Now two legal vestiges of apartheid remain, namely the Group Areas Act and the Population Registration Act. They will have to go the same way as the amenities legislation—the sooner, the better. The same applies to all discriminatory legislation. No one expects that lasting peace will now settle over public amenities. The opening of the beaches indicated that such a step goes hand in hand with considerable friction. However, we have enough confidence in South Africans' common sense to believe that economic forces and free association are two better ways of managing the use of facilities than discriminatory laws which have no moral foundation."

Ivory Coast

Government Warns Against Looting, Vandalism

AB0606202790 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] Anonymous leaflets are circulating in town calling on workers at Lebanese companies and shops to observe a 48-hour strike order as of 11 June throughout the national territory. The authors of the tracts are demanding a review of salaries and threatening to perpetrate acts of looting and vandalism in shops, factories, and warehouses belonging to Lebanese nationals if their grievances are not satisfied.

The government, while respecting the workers' right to strike, hereby warns that it will not tolerate acts of looting and vandalism perpetrated against any foreign community living in our country, a country where dialogue and brotherhood prevail. Ivory Coast has the duty to protect all the communities living in our territory along with their property. Therefore, any demonstration aimed at disturbing the public order is strictly forbidden and will be severely dealt with. The government hereby calls on all employees of Lebanese shops and factories to demand their rights in an atmosphere of calm and serenity.

'Gangsters' Attack CAR Ambassador's Residence

AB0606061090 Paris AFP in French 1946 GMT
5 Jun 90

[Text] Abidjan, 5 May (AFP)—The Central African Republic ambassador's residence in Abidjan was attacked by gangsters who seriously injured the ambassador's nephew and wife, an official of the embassy announced today. The seven gangsters also took away several articles and money. The financial loss was estimated at 2 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs by the embassy. Ambassador Ngoupande Jean-Paul was not hurt. He left his residence to wait for repairs to be completed at the damaged villa.

Liberia

Rebels Moving Closer; Doe Not Ready To Resign

Doe Asks Bush, UN for Help

AB0606161690 Paris AFP in French 1557 GMT
6 Jun 90

[Text] Monrovia, 6 Jun (AFP)—President Samuel Doe has written to President George Bush and the United Nations asking them to help him bring down the rebellion which, he claims, is supported by Libya, the Liberian information minister announced today. Minister Emmanuel Bowier also stated that the president was ready to "make sacrifices." "If the people of the 13 counties demand the departure of Mr. Doe, the issue

should be discussed," but the president is not ready to resign as demanded by the "rebels, the voluntary exiles, and opposition groups."

Rebel Strategist Killed

AB0706120190 Paris AFP in English 1152 GMT
7 Jun 90

[By Christian Spillmann]

[Excerpts] Buchanan, Liberia, June 7 (AFP)—Liberian rebels, moving closer each day to their objective of overthrowing President Samuel Doe, have suffered a setback with the death of their key military strategist, U.S.-trained Elmer Glee Johnson. He was killed along with his seven-strong escort in a skirmish not far from this major iron ore port late Sunday which the rebels secured after almost three weeks of fighting with loyalist forces. On Wednesday [6 June] this correspondent was taken to see his body lying with a bullet in the head. Alongside him were the seven bodies of his escort, each with a bullet in the head.

Shortly before leaving to make a military assessment of the area around the capital of Monrovia, 120 kilometres (75 miles) away, he had made ironic remarks about the few remaining governmental troops being hunted down by his men in Buchanan. He said they were "mosquitoes" who would be eliminated without any problem.

Rebel officials said that while Mr. Johnson had been studying the routes into Monrovia, about 60 government troops succeeding in breaking out of Buchanan, seized a lorry confiscated by the rebels, fled, and attacked Mr. Johnson and his men as they returned to their base.

Mr. Johnson, 33, a Liberian, was acknowledged to be the master strategist of the rebels' military campaign to oust President Doe. He had served for six years with the U.S. Marines and was a veteran of the U.S. invasion of the Caribbean island of Grenada in 1982. [passage omitted]

Mr. Johnson was responsible for the four companies of the first battalion of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), totaling about 1,000 men. He tried to drill them in basic discipline and in guerrilla warfare tactics.

Rebels who took journalists to see the bodies, said: "We shall do our best to bring this war to an end."

Earlier they said they were preparing to attack Monrovia and were studying how to usher in the post-Doe era.

Meanwhile the U.S. Embassy has advised all U.S. citizens to leave the country immediately. In Washington, officials said that the State Department had asked several African states whether they would be prepared to give asylum to Mr. Doe.

The rebels have given scant information on current operations, but reports from Monrovia said that there was combat to the west and to the east of the capital.

The attack to the west appeared to be aimed at cutting the last road open to the frontier. It was being used on Tuesday by many Liberians and foreigners seeking refuge in Sierra Leone.

On Wednesday journalists who left Monrovia eastwards were discouraged from continuing after having travelled 23 kilometres (15 miles) by soldiers who explained that they were entering a dangerous area. To the north rebels controlled a major road junction at Katata, less than 50 kilometres (30 miles) away. [passage omitted]

Police Chief Resigns

AB0506112490 Paris AFP in French 1101 GMT
5 Jun 90

[Text] Monrovia, 5 Jun (AFP)—The head of the Liberian Police, Mr. Wilfred Clark, has resigned from his post because of a serious disagreement with the minister of justice. This was learned from police sources in Monrovia today.

Mr. Clark left the country last Tuesday [29 May] on a British Airways flight after handing in his resignation, the same sources said. He had been appointed to head the police by President Samuel Doe in 1982, after serving as the head of the Presidential Guard under President William Tolbert, who was assassinated in 1980.

Minister Denies Plantation Taken

AB0606222690 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2030 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] Despite rebel claims that they now have all the Firestone Plantation, Owensgrove, and Harbel, the government today denied the rebel claim. Minister Bowier denied the claim during his weekly Information Ministry press briefing at the Ministry.

[Begin recording] [Bowier] Firestone Plantation company, the Firestone Plantation company is not in the hands of the rebels. I heard a BBC report. The BBC correspondent said that someone telephoned to say that the rebels were in charge there. Anybody could do that. Anybody could telephone to say that. The...

[BBC correspondent Elizabeth Blunt interrupting] I telephoned somebody at the plantation....

[Bowier interrupting] That is what I am saying someone, you telephoned somebody who told you ...

[Blunt interrupting] [words indistinct] is there...

[Bowier interrupting] (?Someone) at that number told you that. I am telling you that people in the field, military people in the field, have confirmed that they are not in charge. Now the best thing to do is for the press to go up there [words indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] going there, are you going too? [passage indistinct]

[Bowier] No problem, I'm ready to go. [end recording]

Minister Bowier was challenged today at the Ministry of Information.

Information Minister on Abductions

AB0606180690 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] The Ministry of Information today continued its weekly press briefing with Information Minister Emmanuel Bowier speaking on a number of issues ranging from the recent killing and abduction of people in Monrovia, to the current fighting around the Roberts International Airport in Magibi County [as heard]. Minister Bowier told the press briefing attended by local and foreign journalists, that one suspect has so far been arrested by the Justice Ministry in connection with the killings, while vehicles with license plates GP26, GP28 and GP62, allegedly used to abduct people from the United Nations Development Program office in Sinkor, have been identified by the government.

The Information Minister said, quoting reports received from the Justice Ministry, that the vehicles with (?license) plates GP number 62 and 26 are assigned to the German forestry mission while GP 28 is assigned to the Food and Agricultural Organization, FAO, and assigned to a Cameroonian working with the organization. Minister Bowier said following the incident, the vehicle licensed GP28 was arrested along with its driver. He, however, also told the journalists that the Cameroonian national whose name was not disclosed, had informed the government investigators that in the night of the incident, the vehicle was parked on his premises.

Minister Bowier also quoted the Justice Ministry as saying that the German forestry mission has admittedly been issued the plate, but on the night of the abduction, both vehicles were at the CFAO garage on Bushrod Island for repairs, adding that one of the vehicles with GP62 was taken to the garage after having been earlier involved in an accident in Bomi County. Minister Bowier then called on the public to give information which may be useful in apprehending all those responsible for the recent killings and abduction of people in the country.

Rebels Execute 'Ethnic Rivals'

AB0506181190 Paris AFP in English 1805 GMT
5 Jun 90

[Text] Buchanan, Liberia, June 5 5 (AFP)—Rebels fighting to unseat Liberian President Samuel Doe have summarily executed hundreds of ethnic rivals near this key iron ore port 90 miles (145 kilometers) from the capital Monrovia, eyewitnesses said. The witnesses said the victims were primarily members of Mr. Doe's native Krahn tribe and Mandingos, a group of Moslem traders accused of supporting the government.

An AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent saw about 20 bodies in plain clothes near Buchanan, where government troops and rebels have been fighting for the past three weeks. Rebel leaders have put the blame on the government troops.

Buchanan's 100,000-strong population deserted the city after rebels of the National Patriotic Front (NPFL) captured the port on May 19, retaken by troops on May 26, and won back by the insurgents a few days later.

Gio, Mano Soldiers Detained

AB0606214490 London BBC World Service in English
1330 GMT 6 Jun 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Liberian Government has taken further action against Gio and Mano soldiers in the Army. They of course come from Nimba County where the rebellion against the government first started. They have already had to face a number of restrictions, but now the government has taken further measures. On the line to Monrovia, I asked Elizabeth Blunt what those were:

[Begin recording] [Blunt] Well, last night, I called at about half past two in the morning. All the Mano and Gio soldiers inside the barracks were [word indistinct] and gathered together. They were told that somebody had something to say to them. When they were gathered, they were told to strip and then they were taken off to the military prison in the barracks which is called the post stockade. This was told to me by one staff sergeant who managed to slip away and get over the wall and escape. The ones who were sleeping in the town were arrested as they came to work. There was a big roadblock this morning, at about seven a.m. this morning, outside the training center and passersby saw a lot of checkpoints, soldiers taking people, soldiers taking other soldiers away.

[Marshall] So, how many are being, well, detained indeed?

[Blunt] I really do not know. I mean the estimate I was given by Mano and Gio people who were involved, and who are obviously partisans, range from 200 up to 500. The most usual figure was 200 to 300.

[Marshall] So it seems then that the government of Samuel Doe feels it can no longer count on the loyalty of Gio and Mano soldiers?

[Blunt] Well, to read the government's lines, I imagine if there was an attack on the city, then I am afraid that they would rise up within the barracks on the rebels' side.
[end recording]

'Rival Rebel Factions' Clash in Bong

AB0606095990 London BBC World Service in English
0730 GMT 6 Jun 90

[From the "African News" program]

[Text] Latest reports from Liberia say rebel forces

remain in control of the Firestone rubber plantation, a mainstay of the economy, 30 miles from the capital, Monrovia. Local people contacted by telephone say there is no sign of the government's counteroffensive.

Reports earlier in the day said the Army put up little resistance as rebels took over the plantation, and there was no report of casualties among Firestone employees. Fighting has been reported in Bong County, in central Liberia, but the BBC's West Africa correspondent says these clashes are believed to involve rival rebel factions.

Air Traffic Controllers Cut Contact

AB0706124790 Paris AFP in English 1238 GMT
7 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Abidjan, Jun 7 (AFP)—Two small airplanes flew out of James Spriggs Airport in the Liberian capital Monrovia Thursday for Abidjan, airport officials said here.

Meanwhile, air traffic controllers at Robertsfield, Liberia's only international airport 55 kilometers (35 miles) east of Monrovia, cut off contact with airplanes flying over the Gulf of Guinea on Thursday.

The controllers had been monitoring flights from southwest Africa to Western Europe and between Latin American, West Africa and the Middle East even as Liberian rebels seeking to oust President Samuel Doe had surrounded the airport.

Airport officials gave no warning that they would be easing their normal functions at the large airport. Aircraft in the area were being directed by control centers in Abidjan and Dakar. [passage omitted]

Rebels Outline Policies

AB0606144390 Paris AFP in French 1222 GMT
6 Jun 90

[Text] Buchanan (Liberia), 6 Jun (AFP)—As their fighters are come closer to Monrovia, the Liberian rebel leaders have outlined their political program, insisting on their willingness to maintain a free-enterprise economy and the bonds that have existed between Monrovia and Washington for more than one and a half centuries. "I am deliberately an intransigent capitalist, and I am proud of that," their leader, Charles Taylor told AFP during an interview. In the field, he sees to it his men follow his orders to ensure American companies' installations are kept in such a state that they can rapidly resume operation.

"Once we have toppled (President Samuel) Doe, we will form a transitional government whose mission will be to address the country's problems. When this mission is accomplished, we will call general free elections," Elmer Johnson, Taylor's military adviser, told AFP during the weekend.

"We want an unrestricted free-enterprise system, and we will hold totally free elections and form a government for and by the people," Taylor affirmed. "Such a government will be entirely" composed of members of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), "and we also will include a few independent figures known for their competence," Johnson adds.

For Samuel Dhokie, a former rural development minister (1980-83) and now a leading NPFL political official, there is no doubt about this: Charles Taylor will be the next Liberian president, although this 42-year-old leader has long affirmed he had no personal ambition. It is obviously in his capacity as the future head of state that he confers with Western businessmen, giving them assurances their Liberian interests will not be harmed and that their companies will rapidly resume operation. He gave such assurances to the Liberia Mining Company management shortly after Buchanan, the country's major mining harbor, was captured.

Iron ore extracted from Mount Nimba, in the northeast, is Liberia's major source of revenue—Liberia is the world's third largest exporter—along with the latex produced by the American Firestone company's plantations, which were established half a century ago, and more recently by the Liberian Agricultural Company (LAC) of the American Keene Corporation.

The rebel forces have been following the NPFL's instructions on foreign properties: Namely not to break or steal anything, but to leave everything in order so foreigners will rapidly return to Liberia. The AFP special correspondent noted this in the LAC installations some 30 km outside Buchanan. The cottages have not been looted and the doors have remained locked.

Taylor spent several days at this plantation 24-29 May while his troops were capturing Buchanan, which they lost then recaptured last Sunday [3 June] after the flight of the remaining government forces confined to various parts of this town of more than 100,000 inhabitants.

A handful of foreigners are found there. "We cannot do anything except see to the minimum maintenance of the installations. We are, in a way, the watchdogs," said Vincent Tan, the LAC official an AFP special correspondent met at the plantation.

On the other hand, the rebels took great liberty with their instructions during the recapture of Buchanan. The town, deserted by its inhabitants, was plundered by the "freedom fighters," as the NPFL likes to call its men.

One can meet several groups on the roads with their vehicles overloaded with television sets, tires, mattresses, and other consumer goods collected from shops and houses. "It is for us, all is for us," they explain with loud bursts of laughter.

Front Leaders To Meet on Leadership

AB0706061590 Paris AFP in English 0030 GMT
7 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Monrovia, June 7 (AFP)—The U.S. Embassy Wednesday advised all U.S. citizens still in Liberia to leave the country immediately as rebels prepared to launch a final assault on the capital. [passage omitted]

Earlier Wednesday rebel forces said they controlled the main towns and the Firestone Plantation near Robertsfield, the country's only international airport east of the capital, while confident rebel political leaders were discussing how they would usher in the post-Doe era. [passage omitted]

A State Department spokesman said Washington had agreed to a Soviet request to include Soviet diplomats in any U.S. evacuation of the capital. A flotilla of six U.S. Navy ships carrying 2,000 Marines is stationed off the Liberian coast to evacuate U.S. nationals.

In the Ivory Coast capital of Abidjan, the secretary general of the rebels' organization, the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, said NPFL leaders were preparing to meet in rebel-held territory to resolve questions of leadership. NPFL Secretary General Moses Duopoue, a former Liberian labor minister and Doe adviser, said the NPFL would choose a leader of a transitional government once the "freedom fighters" took the capital "in three or four days." He told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in Abidjan that he was leaving the Ivory Coast late Thursday to meet with members of the Front's executive committee which include military chief Charles Taylor. [passage omitted]

Mr. Duopoue said the NPFL executive council would meet to decide who would be interim president ahead of general elections, and that anyone interested in being head of state would have to lobby support from other members of the movement. The rebels launched their bid to oust Mr. Doe last December in northeastern Nimba County near the Ivory Coast and Guinea. The secretary general, a long-time opposition leader in the United States who participated in a 1985 coup attempt against Mr. Doe, said he would challenge Mr. Taylor over his political ambitions. "I want the world to know I'm going up there (Liberia)," he said. He said NPFL chairman Harry Yuan was currently in Senegal.

In a statement addressed to all NPFL members, Mr. Duopoue said as a true revolutionary movement, "power is not our concern." He said the aim of the rebel drive was the "removal of Doe's autocratic regime." Mr. Duopoue said the rebels were now in control of every part of Liberia "with only the capital city Monrovia left."

The rebels' political leader said he had been in contact with several U.S. diplomats around West Africa and was

planning to meet the U.S. ambassador in Abidjan, Kenneth Lee Brown, on Thursday before leaving for Liberia. A U.S. Embassy spokesman declined comment on the meeting. [passage omitted]

University Classes Suspended

AB0506215090 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Despite radio announcements for students and teachers at the University of Liberia [UL] to continue normal classes as planned, reports say classes have virtually failed to resume. The failure of classes at the University of Liberia has come about as more than two thirds of the school's population and some instructors have not been turning up for school. The exact nature of the absenteeism has not yet been established, but some instructors are quoted as saying it can be attributed to fear on the part of students and staff considering the prevailing situation in the country.

A local paper said one of its reporters visiting the UL main campus saw the campus virtually empty, with several classrooms locked and less than a third of its students population on campus.

Meanwhile, today, the university administration announced the suspension of classes until further notice.

New Rice Distribution Scheme

AB0506084990 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Excerpt] The Commerce Ministry has devised a new scheme to ensure the smooth delivery of rice on the Liberian market in the wake of present rice delivery disorder which has resulted in arbitrary increase in the price of the commodity. A Commerce Ministry release issued today said under the new scheme, there will be no sale or delivery of rice to the public without invoice bearing a stamp of the ministry, the delivery date, and the supply number. The ministry, according to the release, has also ordered the Alliance Distribution and Rice Corporation, ADRICO, to temporarily suspend sale of rice so that servicing of outstanding invoices and the systematic delivery of rice can be effected as of Tuesday, June 5.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Ministry has advised all individuals and institutions, including government offices and parastatals with invoices, to present same to the ministry for scrutiny and rescheduling of deliveries. It said effective June 5 rice will be supplied from 15 distribution centers around Monrovia. [passage omitted]

Relief Commission Offers Money, Rice

AB0606122690 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0709 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] The National Disaster Relief Commission [NDRC] has presented a check for \$5,000 along with 400 bags of rice to the Liberia Council of Churches and the

Liberia National Red Cross Society to help feed displaced people in the country. The commission's secretary, Mr. (?Thomas Steach), said 300 bags were presented to the Red Cross, while the remaining 100 bags and the check were presented to the council for displaced people and the Lutheran Church in Sinkor.

Meanwhile, the National Disaster Relief Commission has assured the public that it will do everything in bringing relief to displaced people in Monrovia. The commission, however, noted that the temporary closure of operations by the United Nations Disaster Relief office has caused the National Disaster Relief Commission very serious setbacks in its operations. The NDRC said since the start of relief operations in Liberia, both the commission and its collaborating agencies and institutions have not firmly implemented any of its operational objectives.

In a release issued yesterday by the commission, it noted that the commission began with plans to move into Nimba County at the outset of the crisis but had to leave because of unsafe conditions there.

Red Cross Affirms Neutrality

AB0706101790 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0709 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] The president of the Liberian National Red Cross Society wants to clarify news reports published in the Tuesday 5 June 1990 edition of THE NEWS newspaper concerning the presentation of 10 bags of rice to the Armed Forces of Liberia for wounded soldiers. According to the Red Cross release yesterday, during the presentation, its president said that the Red Cross movement, as a neutral and impartial body, has the responsibility to assist suffering humanity in general, a task which this body has been carrying out since the rebel incursion in the country, in particular the displaced individuals, because no incidents of wounded soldiers were brought to its attention.

In recent days, however, since its knowledge of there being wounded soldiers, it has been assisting them with medical care and now with 10 bags of rice. The president said further that in keeping with its principle of neutrality and impartiality, the Red Cross owes similar obligations and responsibility to opposite forces if their injured can be reached. But since it is only able to reach the government forces, they are the only ones that the Red Cross can render services to now.

But THE NEWS newspaper puts it that the Liberian Red Cross president said that the Red Cross would help rebels if they appealed to them. The president strongly advises the journalists to be more careful in quoting people when they say something, as careless mistakes can endanger the lives of innocent people.

Citizens Urged Not To Abandon Homes

*AB0706103090 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 6 Jun 90*

[Text] The Government of Liberia has called on citizens and residents to ignore anonymous letters being written by certain individuals (?posing) as rebels with the full intent of creating fear within the city. In a statement issued by the Ministry of Information yesterday, the government noted that these unscrupulous authors were using the letters as a calculated maneuver to make peaceful citizens and residents flee their homes and allow them room for burglary and other criminal acts. The government, according to the statement, has therefore called on individuals receiving such letters to alert the security rather than abandon their homes and (?valuables, thus) becoming vulnerable to death.

Teachers in Bomi County Strike Over Salary Cut

*AB0606223690 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 6 Jun 90*

[Text] Public school instructors in Bomi County are said to have gone on strike in protest against what they call the unjustifiable cut in their monthly salaries by the county authorities. According to a local newspaper, the teachers's decision reached recently will affect over 30 public and private schools functioning under the National Teachers Association of Liberia, Bomi branch.

At a mass meeting held in Bomi Junior High school, the over 200 teaching instructors maintained that their salaries are being cut without their consent for the past two months. The teachers, according to the paper, blamed this act on what they called heartless county authorities whom they accused of enriching themselves by their [words indistinct] by collecting county development funds. The Bomi instructors explained that their March salary checks were sliced by over 60 percent, describing

it as absolutely unbearable. The teachers then resolved that unless funds deducted from them were immediately refunded, further deductions halted and they will fully informed of future development and collection, they will not return to classes.

Nigeria**Government Willing To Grant Asylum to Doe**

*AB0706142790 Paris AFP in English 1424 GMT
7 Jun 90*

[Text] Lagos, June 7 (AFP)—The Nigerian Government would welcome Liberia's President Samuel Doe if he wishes to settle in the country, a source close to the federal government told AFP Thursday [7 June] here.

"There is nothing wrong in Nigeria receiving or granting asylum to President Samuel Doe, and he does not even need to be granted asylum to come here," said the source, without saying if the Liberian leader had officially applied for asylum in Nigeria.

"We already have a precedent. Former Chadian President Felix Malloum was granted asylum by the Nigerian Government after he fled Ndjamena following his overthrow and he is still in the country up till today," the source added.

Speculation that President Doe, menaced by rebels closing in on Monrovia, might come to Nigeria has been circulating here since the beginning of this week. President Doe, who had crisis talks here on May 7 with President Ibrahim Babangida, has appealed to the international community, the United Nations and the U.S. government to come to his aid to combat the rebels of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, poised to overthrow his 10-year-old regime.

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8 June 1990

